Personal Recollections of Conspicuous People, Civit and Military.

NEW MEN TO THE FRONT.

Absurdities Committed During the Early Days of the War.

WEST POINT GRADUATES.

New Levies Taken from All Classes of Society.

---BY GEN. JOHN POPE, U. S. A. (corvaiour 1800.)



way were the men

all interest in military affairs, and, indeed, general ridicule. all knowledge of war; so that when hostili- NO DOUBT THIS DIFFERENCE OF TREATties precipitated themselves upon us miliman might commit. Yet of all the trans- perts, actions of human beings, there are none

LIKE OTHER LESSONS OF THE WAR, this fact was not long in being found out by graduates of West Point. the people and the Government, but until it was discovered some of the most absurd intelligent people and keenest observers in clement of it. the world. The gravity and patience with little else, did make plain to all the utter upheld by their opponents. groundlessness of such an idea. When we When the war began the venerable Winlook back to-day to the absurdities, the field Scott was General-in-Chief of the ridiculous pretensions and to the more pre- Army. He was old and feeble, wholly unposterous, not to say outrageous, conduct of able to undergo the fatigues of camp, or even some of the principal Army officers in 1861, to mount a horse. But he had justly a great we stand astounded at the self-deception reputation as a soldier, a high position both and forbearance of the people at a time in social and political life, and beyond and when the strongest passions were aflame above all he possessed a recommendation and the agonies of apprehension were tor- most valued by the Administration in those turing every man's soul. An entertaining early days of the civil war. He was from and perhaps instructive paper, recounting the Border State of Virginia, and an insome of these burlesque performances, both tensely loyal man. His presence in Washin the East and the West, might be easily ington and his active zeal in behalf of the made up from the official papers in the War Government were of immense benefit in Department, but if prepared by anyone that time of doubt and uncertainty, every who was in position to see behind the scenes | hour aggravated by the desertion of some it would be inexpressibly amusing. We high official, carrying off with him valuable are still rather too near the actors and the personal influence and information. Alacts to publish such matters without giving though Gen. Scott was incapable of doing with amosement we must deny ourselves. the theory of West Point Professors, that after a young fellow has passed one year at

WHATEVER RE DOES OR FAILS TO DO when he leaves there, in no respect shakes their estimate of him. Whatever happens to him in conflict with their opinions is charged to circumstances abnormal and unexpected, and not in the least to any shortcoming in him. Naturally their method simplicity. Every boyls capacity in life is determined by the number of scientific books they can cram into him or he can be tellectual banquet, and that if you squeeze him 20 years afterward it will run out of him as undirected as it went in. The equation has been solved, and there can be no dispute as to the answer. To West Point, therefore, the career of its graduates during the war was a source of constant wonder and dismay, though in justice to their wisdom it must be that these strange freaks of fortune never at all affected their previous estimates their judgment. They always sought explanations of such impressive results in cir-

Sheridan was a fountain of wonder and permen when they were obscure cadets to account for such unexpected outcome, but

without much success.

SOME REMINISCENCES OF GRANT at West Point were put forth before the close of the war and attributed to one of the Professors, but as Grant was a very quiet, reserved man, with nothing noticeable in appearance, manners or proficiency in his studies, and was little, if at all, known even to schoolmates belonging to other classes than his own, much less to Professors, the shown, by old Army officers during the first exquisite exponent of these West Point ideas, and he may be fairly judged, or with sufficient fairness for the present purpose, from F the many surprises his late autobiography. In the professional had passed, and to make the proper changes to which the war of mind he was the ripest production of West the rebellion treated | Point, which of course implies that he might us, perhaps the most have been considered over-ripe for any other noticeable in a small institution of learning in the country.

His book and letters, however, enable anywho came to the front one interested in the matter to form a suffiboth in the civil and | ciently-accurate idea of a beloved of West | military departments Point officials. Much the same remarks Equally surprising pointed to high military positions at the was the fact that of beginning of the war, except that the valuathose who were ex- tion put upon them was due to public notopected to take the lead so few ever did so, and riety instead of algebraic determination. West Point officers were placed at the head | first, but the treatment was somewhat differof the Army in the beginning, as they were ent. The facts were recognized and the the only persons supposed, from their educa- remedy was applied in the case of the high tion and experience, to have much military military officials appointed from civil life the people of the Northern States had lost until his incapacity became a subject of

tary operations were thought to be so scien- must be ascribed to the ignorance of war tific and mysterious that it was considered, everywhere the rule in the country, and the even by the people themselves, presumptu- very natural hesitation of those in authority

When the first year of the war is recalled, which should be (and indeed must be) and the inefficiency of the officers, their forgetunder the dominion of common sense and fulness of the obligations of duty, their conbusiness rules as the conduct of an army troversies and open quarrels, and the disasters, in time of war if success is to be hoped for. failures and disappointments which logic-Whenever anything in conflict with com- ally resulted, it is difficult to realize that we mon sense, especially business sense, is done were successful in the midst of such disby a commander of troops, it is quite as cer- couragement. That we did succeed must be tain that he is doing wrong and will achieve attributed to the aptitude of our people to disaster as the same violation of business learn and apply the lessons of experience. rules will bring similar results to business It is but fair to state that most of these troubles occurred among and were brought about by officers of the old Army, mainly

The war, however, is now over, and all is peace once more. Everybody has been par- ington of the presence of hostile troops. and preposterous proceedings ever witnessed doned and restored to good standing. The in this or any other country were carried on, only enemies of peace, and the gushing sentiin the face and under the eyes of the most mentality which appears to be the essential points.

APPEAR TO BE THE GLD SOLDIERS which the people of the country witnessed who put down the rebellion, and who the wildest and most senseless antics of scarcely dare open their mouths on any military men in the Summer of 1861 would subject pertaining to the war, for fear of have been ridiculous if it had not been in- being charged with stirring up ill-feeling. wested with the pathos of a dreadful war. They have, perhaps, lagged superfluous on close at hand. War was considered a the stage; in fact, they have certainly mysterious specialty which none but the done so, since they have lived long enough initiated must venture to intrude on, and to see how little distinction is made between the first year of the war, if it accomplished the cause for which they fought and that

It has always been and no doubt still is gauization and supply of the new troops enemy during a great battle, and furnishing the Academy, they can solve his equation | bly have gone well; but the moment troops | his abhorrence of drink, he was proved by the | horter's triumphs at the rustic churches. of our army before Washington, the martial spirit again dominated his better judgment, and he undertook to conduct from his office

A CAMPAIGN AGAINST AN ENEMY IN THE

or would have done so in any other case, in of "sixing up" of the graduates gives token stronger language than Gen. Scott had done of the same wisdom. The rule is full of many a time and oft in his life, and notably during the Mexican war. The result was precisely what he himself had always predicted it must be-failure. McDowell, who was in 1861 a comparatively young officer, a made to absorb in a given time. It matters | Major in the Adjutant-General's Departnot in the least that the scholar does not ment and a former Aid-de-Camp on Gen. also that mystery in which the possessors of digest or in any manner assimilate the in- Scott's staff, had been made Brigadier-Gen- it shrouded themselves, that seclusion in eral, and assigned to the command of the which they intrenched themselves, so as to be troops arriving in Washington. As fast as | inaccessible, at times, even to the President regiments arrived-and they came very fast on the President's first call for troops-they were transferred to the Virginia side of the and pensive face without being impressed for Sir James sails for England in the next Potomac, where they soon made an army formidable in numbers, but lamentably that they indicated profound thought, and 30 hours."

Relief, y weak in organization and discipline. Necessarily they possessed not the slightest experience of war or knowledge of military operations or obligations. In especial they were restless under the restraints and deor shook their belief in the infiellibity of mands of military service in the field. These first levies came from all classes and condi- They will occur at once to anyone familiar build for him. tions, and the same regiment oftentimes with those times. contained representatives of the very ex- McDowell possessed none of these impresssumstances and conditions which had no tremes of social life. The barkeeper and the ive ways, and suffered accordingly. elation to the capacity of the actors. To clergyman, the coalbeaver and the college

these worthy Professors, with their inflexi- graduate stood side by side in the ranks, ate ble opinions about the men whom they had | the same food side by side at the mess, and taught, the career of such men as Grant and | slept side by side in their tents. Whilst all of them had, no doubt, been governed by the ordinary rules of civil life, perhaps none of predicament of Balaam when his ass began army discipline, or were at all accustomed to talk so wisely. They began to try and to the arbitrary orders and curt manners of remember something of these remarkable | the old Army officer. As the larger part of them were men of intelligence and character, and held social standing of more or less prominence at home, it was desirable, if not ARCHY'S absolutely essential, that in the beginning of this abrupt and extreme change of life they should at first have been treated with What Happened in Perry's the utmost kindness both of speech and of

act. The patriotic reason which PROMPTED THEM TO LEAVE EVERYTHING and come forward even as private soldiers to SISTERLY defend their Government, fully entitled them to the highest consideration, and I am sure it was felt, though, perhaps, rarely | How Perry and Cooroo Entered value of these reminiscences may be fairly | months of the war. It took these old miliquestioned. Gen. McClellan was the most | tary officials some time to shake off the habits of their lives and to comprehend clearly that the volunteers placed under their command were many, if not all of them, citizens of character and standing. They came to the estimate of himself which he gives in realize it, however, before many months both in manner and method. It was discovered, too, that fear of punishment was hardly the proper incentive to the making of a good soldier, and that discipline needed no military violence nor the use of bad words. They also learned in time that the trouble between the North and the South was not a political squabble, nor the volunteer a

When McDowell was made a Brigadierof the Government. may be made of the prominent civilians ap- General and placed in command of the troops in front of Washington he was about 43 years of age, tall and stalwart, with short hair and a full face, inclining to redness, and when in uniform he had all the distinctive appearance of a Marshal of the First Empire. of that few none, or scarcely any, succeeded The general surprise and disappointment in His eyes were very bright, his tones of voice overturning of plates and dishes at a grand in maintaining their position. Naturally the the last case were quite as great as in the rough and metallic, his manner arbitrary banquet, afforded caves and covers for the of the science of war, and full of energy and zeal. It may be said of him as it cannot be said of many in such unqualified terms, that | unsecn. knowledge. It was astonishing to observe with promptness and dispatch, but the edu- he was an intensely loyal man, not alone to known a man in whom

THE OBLIGATION OF DUTY DOMINATED to such a degree as McDowell. The misfortune was that his arrogant manners, a habit merely, and the strong metallic voice in which he not seldom uttered the harshest language when excited (and he was easily and often excited), gave him an undeserved ous for any citizen to criticize, much less to meddle with matters which they did not unpopularity during the first months of the had been, with blind faith, taking the Old censure, any absurdity that any West Point understand or to interfere with supposed ex- war, which he was never able entirely to Testament, which the preachers called "the overcome. In his position of commander of the troops in front of Washington, he was also handicapped by the fact that Gen. Scott. only two or three miles in rear, was in the actual command-in-chief, and that he (Mc-Dowell) had been his Aid-de-Camp only a short time before. Naturally McDowell, who saw both troops and country with his own eyes, had come to strong convictions about attacking the enemy in his front, who,

He also had his opinion as to the true manner in which the attack should be made. There was no question about the absolute necessity that some effort should be made as

Naturally, also, Gen. Scott had his opin ons on the subject, and as usual the king and the heir-apparent disagreed on both As usual, the compromise was not so good

as either of the original plans. The essential feature of the pian finally adopted was that Gen. Johnston, of the rebel army, who was in front of Winchester, should be detle at Bull Run with Beauregard. For this purpose Gen. Robert Patterson, of Philadelphia, a retired merchant, who knew a great deal more about a division of profits in a rade than about a division of troops in the field, was placed in command of a considerable Union force at Winchester, and as guide, philosopher and friend, that impetuous soldier and desperate fighter, Fitz-John Porter, then Major in the Adjutant-General's Department, was sent to reinforce him. A perfectly logical result followed: Johnston marched away to Bull Run and determined the result of that battle; Patterson and Porter remained to adorn the village of Winchester. McDowell wrote a very manly report of the battle (first Bull Run), in which, however, he chargeable to him. If he had known how much his generous act would be afterward abased to his injury, he would perhaps have shown less forbearance.

He was in all such matters a generous man, upon by the unscrupulous. It is as amazing now, as it was then, to everybody who knew him, what shameful slanders were circulated work of administration at the head of the treachery on the field of battle-treachery Army in all matters pertaining to the or- to the degree of communicating with the called into service, and the general fields information to defeat his comrades. The fined himself to this work, all would proba- temperate to the verge of intemperance in of the enemy began to take position in front | testimony of several witnesses to have been seen in a beastly condition of intoxication on the streets of Washington. Most of this injury, to the imbitterment of his life and the destruction of his military career, was due largely to the impatience of his temper and the arrogance and severity of his language and manner. One can learn from No man had condemned such an attempt, McDowell's fate how much more valuable to human success is that intangible thing called deportment than character and ability. Indeed, the successful career of several of our conspicuous officers during the early part of the war was due wholly and exclusively to "deportment."

By deportment I do not mean simply | there he heard the servants saying : the United States himself. No one could of look on the solemn visage, the furrowed brow conquest were surging in the massive brain behind. As few men in those days knew anything of war, they accepted these heroes at their own valuation, and it is astonishing | posure of the murder. how long they banked on this capital alone. It is not worth while to mention their names. never get the dwelling Sir James was to

(To be continued.)

plexity, and they felt themselves much in the them had ever had the slightest taste of A Quiet Retreat on the Top of South Mountain.

MEDITATIONS.

Search for Brian.

CONFIDENCES

a New Life.

BY GEORGE ALFRED TOWNSEND. [COPYRIGHTED BY THE RATIONAL TRIBUNE, 1890.]

XI. SEEKING LEVELS.



RCHY Beatty bid himself till night at Belshazzar's Table, a vast confusion of broken slabs of sandstone upon the section of the South Mountain beyond the Gap, and overlooking Burkettsville; these shattered rocks, like a convulsion in a crockery shop, or the

obdurate fugitive to secrete himself, and from the fringes of the laurel and chestnut he could peep down upon both valleys and be

The spot he looked upon with a murderin the early part of 1861 how completely cated military man was suffered to go on his country, but to his duty. I have never er's last fond hope was the respectable brick farm dwelling where Coeroo earned a habitation by her housekeeping arts.

Archy was a spoiled man, but not a bad one. His heart was ardent beyond his set and obstinate head. Trying to do right had made him arrogant, and ignorance of the law in his case was almost innocence; for he law of God," to be the only code of laws, and had come to the view that an idolator, a soothsayer, or a wizard could be "cut off."

His offense was that of many a selfrighteous rustic sectarian, nominating himself to be the law's executioner. "He shall be cut off "implied to Archy, with his extensive ecclesiastical pretensions, a comby the way, were actually blockading the mand to himself, and although he had been Potomac below Washington with their picks | made jealous by O'Connor's attentions to his ets along the river, absolutely in sight of the foster sister, the benefit of the doubt was due to him that he felled the intruder with the arm of superstition, like the Joabs and Sam-

Yet the angry clouds of fate were now soon as possible to rid the vicinity of Wash- around Archy's head. Respectable endeavors had been for naught, and one moment of fury had pushed him over into the criminal world and hunted him to the desert rocks of the upland wilderness.

He knelt among these lichen-spotted stones, the illimitable broken tables, as they

OF THE LAWS FROM SINAL, tained there until McDowell fought the bat- and prayed great words of agony, till he forgot his danger, and was literally wrestling with the angels, crying, like Jacob, "I will not let thee go till thou hast blessed me."

But no soothing assurance ever comes he prayed the more unnatural Archy felt, with accusations.

Nothing had been well ordered for him in its individuals had hardened toward him. is Archy? Where are they all?" He began to soften toward the view of Perry Turtle, to go and "pound upon the stones Mr. O'Connor is killed. Daddy Beatty's old took upon himself the responsibility for and bricks, and not on the pulpits," and house has fell in and mashed him. Sister many misfortunes and mistakes not properly be a good mason instead of a vainglorious and Archy are gone-we can't tell where."

"Alas!" exclaimed Archy, all sweaty and haggard after the convulsions of the after- by the light and shade of passions and of noon, "I have lost my chance with Sir James | crime, nd in several cases within my own knowl- Athol. He was to give me a dwelling to edge this trait of character has been played build for the Turtle girls. How can I ex- old Turtle. "I can suffer no more." plain anything to him?"

The stars were now out, and a large lanabout him, and generally credited, because | tern of a moon lighted up the deep valley | Cooroo. "When it is too dark there must great offense, but I presume enough will be active duty in the field, he could do the loyal men on earth, openly charged with rock and tree. Superstitious images of the leave you and sister—and Archy, to go of his great unpopularity. One of the most and called the owls and noisy insects from be a change. I felt this when I refused to quivering fellow-man he had stretched at | England with Sir James Athol." his feet frightened the mason's composure. Many a night he had walked through these to which they should be sent. Had he con- most temperate man in the army, indeed same woods singing hymns, fearing neither through the cracks in his airy roof. men nor spirits, and rejolding in his ex-

"I am Cain indeed," said Archy at length, "the very spirits of the stones are up agin me. O, if there is not one kind girl left to silence is not."

As he picked his way along the spine of land." the mountain toward the Gap he observed lights moving in the buildings there and heard the sound of wagons loading goods. Fear and curiosity, and also the plaintive

desire for human society, impelled Archy to work his way to the verge of the lawn, and "Be lively with this last trunk! We must make Fredericktown by the early train."

"What keeps Sir James?" "Mr. O'Connor has not reported yet, Sir James went to look for him till dark, and has the neighbors out hunting the mountain;

Relief, yet distress, came to Archy's soul. Perhaps this speedy departure would confuse the knowledge and prevent the ex-

Perhaps, also, poor Creeper Turtle would heart as Archy's?"

"O, GOD," EXCLAIMED ARCHY. that I have robbed the poor cripple of his chance for a dry home!"

He shed some real tears of heartfelt

That instant the hard and fiercer conditions which had steeled him against contrition seemed to have relaxed.

An idea fell into his mind as of the light from one of the heavenly stars above his head.

He trembled and reflected and fell upon his knees: "Pardon! mercy!" he sighed; "I ask

me, Nature! somewhere, thy consolation. I am a sinner." The sound of the departing wagons driven toward Middletown became fainter and

fainter in the crystal vault of night. Archy raised himself, and muttered: "I know I have found some sympathy. Maybe I will come the next thing to love." He struck around the edge of the lawn,

and by a steep path descended to Creeper Turtle's cabin. evening call upon her father.

Archy appeared before her by the heap of stones at the inlet to the hut:

"My darling," he whispered, "I have come to you for consolation. Perry has turned me away. She has broke my heart."



Go! BRING THE DEAD TO LIFE! Go!" "How can I help you, Archy? The poor soul is dead. I feel fur you, dear friend." "I killed him under a mistake, dear Coo. I thought he had corrupted my sister by his spells. But I am hungry fur love, and I offer it to you. Will you take me to your heart, and give the slayer peace?"

"Killed him? A slayer? Why, Archy, what do you mean? They found him mashed to death under his own house." "I know nothing of that! Found what?

It was O'Connor, the wizard, that I killed." The girl screamed an instant. "O'Connor! O, what has become of Perry,

then, who loved him so? Don't you know. Archy, that your father is dead?" "Daddy dead? Not pore daddy, who cried to see me go? You are punishing me Cooroo. I come yer to be your friend and slave. O, speak to me. Say, 'Archy, I am

yours.177 "IS THIS THE TIME FOR YOU. with your father lost in his sins and ready for the bier, to come to me, at last, with your love? Archy, I see what is the matter. You have done a great crime, or tried to do one, and my sister has sent you away. If there is a man's life on your hands I can't take

them. No, not as much as I loved you." "Where can I go, Coo?" "Go bring the dead to life. Go, go!" He rushed up the road into the Gap with an instinct that was like madness.

Cooroo burst into tears. "I have destroyed him. He will take his from violent acts of passion, though self- own life," she said, entering the wretched righteousness was their excuse. The longer trap of tin and lumber where her father lay. "All Winter long, my child, I must shiver and finally he turned upon heaven itself in this hut again!" whined old Creeper Turtle. "The good gentleman on the mountain offered me a dry, tight roof, and the Christian progression; the society and Archy was to build it, I thought. O, where

"Grandpa, Sir James is fled. They say She sank down upon the old man's cot and felt the worst curse of poverty-made visible

"I may as well take my own life," mused "Grandpa, there is a light which commences to shine at the darkest hour," said

"A light? Yes, there is a light!" muttered the old man irrelevantly, watching the sky

"While waiting for Mr. O'Connor, Sir James offered to take me away this night. He said that his haste afforded no time to carry out any other charitable plans, but that if I would go down to the city he would greet me, I must find another world where | clothe me, take me on the ship, respect me like a parent, and have me educated in Eng-

"That is a bright light, indeed!" came with an odd relevancy of time from Creeper Turtle.

"I could not act with Sister Perry's decision. I was afraid of the sea. I could not leave you-and Archy. I took the kind gentleman's hand and answered him: 'I will let God do his will. Farewell!""

"Cooroo, my child, do you not see the light? It is very red. It seems to be com- | tions and Milky Way; the earth was phos-She opened the low, ricketty door.

"Grandpa, the mountain is on fire!"

"Ha! ha! ha!" the old man chuckled, as if he felt the warmth of the burning woods in his old bones; "it is the light which commences to shine at the darkest hour." "Archy went toward the fire," mused the blowing along the lofty and narrow path of of communicating with O'Connor's plain

the railroad at Fredericktown,

mighty abutment which stood at right angles | and the stars. to the general mountain ridge, and connected | There were said to be snakes abroad at with it at the White Rock Lookout.

the world to weep its dews for me. Give ing its illumination upon the sky before the piercing sight the engles might have envied. flame had yet risen to view.

> the mountain was molten red as the driving flame came before the western wind blow- broken. ing through the flues of the

"GAPS OF PLEASANT VALLEY. and burrowing under the fallen leaves and mold at the ground the flames seized the trees above with furnace tongues, lapped up their foliage like thirsty lightning, and left a roar like ocean bursting.

As the wagoners and valets turned the upon her flesh, accompanied by a swooning cape of the White Rock Mountain the fire seemed flying with the velocity of steam or birds directly upon the White Rock itself, whose face, like a great under tooth, stood up against the flame, as it were, the tusk of some invincible martyr whose other bones had calcined black.

"Sir James Athol went somewhere there," observed that Baronet's steward. "It's queer where he is."

As the wagons reached the old mud-stone tavern on the Braddock's Gap road, the fire had passed the High Rock and was consuming the woodlands upon the abutment or promontory, which stood out in the sky against the Autumnal stars like a burning ship adrift at sea.

It was midnight, and Sir James Athol had

All this had been the magnificent funeral pile or pyre of the late humble Braddock Beatty, lighted by his pipe.

It was no wonder that the suspicion or discovery of this fact operated to the prejudice of Mr. Beatty's remains, whose funeral was both select and dry, and, indeed, the churches having with rare unanimity refused his body, its exact place of sepulture became forgotten.

Perry Turtle, or Beatty, had light enough left to follow the wagon track of the old man nearly to the Gap, and trace its revolution back into the higher paths of the same section of the mountain.

She could compute by the length of time Braddock had disappeared how far he might have gone that afternoon and evening, and knowing the course of the best woods roads and the situation of the mountain landmarks, Perry calculated that farther than the plateau near the White Rock the old man could not have gone.

She was left, however, with no certainty whether he had deposited the remains at the farthest point of his excursion, or had chosen some intermediate spot to hide them, and of the latter were places innumerable along the broken cone of the ridge, which had its steep side to the east, and many a fissure in that comb would have allowed even an old man like Braddock to transport and drop the body of Brian O'Connor through and down into rarely traversable crescents of steepness six to eight hundred feet above the cultivated footbills.

"My precious dear!" the huntress moaned: "shall I find him before death has corrupted his beauty and made me behindhand with

the birds of flesh?" She could but think of the White Rock as the only spot with a name in that mount-

"Ef the name takes such hold of my mind in my distress now," added Perry, "why wouldn't it have stuck in ole Brad's mind when he was so distressed fur his son's

She therefore considered the White Rock as the objective, the real point of her search. but meandered also to every striking or concealing bowlder and promontory in her

FLITTING, FLYING, SLIPPING, FALLING, .. expecting nothing at the end of her search



DEFINED AGAINST THE MOON, A WILD-CAT DISTURBED IN LAIR."

but the staring and speechless mold of the beloved one, yet hurrying on as if life, and not death, was to be the consummation of her charity.

The streaks of twilight became belts of stars; the lofty vault of ether around the mountain-cone became brilliant constellaphorescent in the desire of everything to convey light in spite of the deserting sun and bannery advance of the large moon.

The widowed girl took kindness from the light, aiding night that was so peaceful and so near, and her haste and fever were as- tioned it to each other. suaged by the gentle winds of the night girl. "Is there eternal fire for such a dear | the ridge like the breath of the blessed from | people in Washington. No inquiry from

the glimmering isles of heaven.

Cumberland or National turnpike, so as to may be where Brian lies! He may scratch get upon a solid grade and travel easily to my darling's face! " The old gun was raised and exploded, and the wildcat fell over the The country road for the first five miles of rock scarp into the hollow mountain depth this journey wound around the base of the with yells which seemed to freeze her blood

night, the time for the torpid copperhead When the wagons had passed a saw-mill to feel some cooling chill of life and travel stream, three miles from the Gap, and thence | upon his evil-tempered guests; but of their moved further out into the open country, biting Perry set no care, and hunted rock, their occupants saw the mountain fire throw- shingle, cliff and thicket with a speed and

One time she fell her length into an abyss In another quarter of an hour the barb of from a steep and jarred her frame, so that she feared to move and find all her bones

In this helpless state she saw go by with energetic, fateful steps the figure of Archy His hands were extended like one with an

errand, or staggering for strength. She forbore to call his name, with the new It was the hour for Cooroo to make the the forest trunks to consume at leisure with gulf opened between them, till he was out of hearing, and then felt the fall of warm soot

heat and a low, ominous roar.



FLEEING FROM THE FIRE. Perry, crawling forth and rushing on. "If t reaches the White Rock before I get there it will consume my darling."

She ran, she screamed; the flight of fowl and small-game before the flame alone replied to her. All golden as the purple morn with burning pieces of belated stars in its flerce furnace, the sheet of flame came up the western heavens as if an army had stormed the parapet there and raised a shout at its success.

Perry turned up the cart track Old Braddock had taken this very day; she saw the print of his peculiar wheels in the path as she ran in the fear, ardor and quickened intelligence of the crisis.

"He is there-at the White Rock-I know it now," she exclaimed. "The fire will cut

me off from him." GLORIOUS, CONSUMING,

like the Biblical end of the world predicted. with the tramp of the illimitable legions of fire scaling the loftiest caps of the mountains, the conflagration reared and smote as it drank of its own breath, and skirmishers of flame, as if with squirrel tails, ran before it and darted into the zenith and alighted upon some veteran tree with a crack like broken bones under the puma's leap.

Faster than man or horse could go the wall of fire pressed eastward and roasted the great sandstone comb as had never happened since it lay in the volcano's kiln as the smooth floor of the cemented ocean. Red. hot the rocks seemed to glow, but the breath of the fire was deadly as its heart. The air felt tormented, the atoms of the world in cindery destruction were flying everywhere like fear aroused in inorganic things, and the light of the glare was radiant as heaven cheering its squadrons of archangels

The girl now saw the White Rock across a hollow basin, pre-empted by the foragers of the fire already. She was cut off from it, and her errand was in vain.

At this discovery a terror started up in her disappointed soul. She felt the fear of death for herself and started to race with that burrowing section of flame which was winning its way down the eastern scarp.

It was a full mile to the mountain's foot by an open rut, or gully, sometimes a road, She flew on sure and experienced feet, feeling the singe of the fire, which raised in her brain the resolve to save her face if she could, as the bequest of heaven and interest of love, nor did she ever know if her steps had touched the ground that day going down the mountain 700 feet.

She felt the flames, however, less persecuting, and the brow of night with passive stars emerged from the zone of fiery desolation as she fell into a pool of water at a marshy branch and drank and held her leaping heart. The next Perry knew she was in the

Seminary of the village, near her sister's and her grandfather's, watched over by bright-eyed pupils, who admired her mold and face.

"Where are-all-all the rest? "asked the girl. "Poor souls! You must ask the fire.

everal are missing." She listened for days to hear something said of a murder, or a pursuit.

The mountain fire had settled all accounts except that of old Braddock Beatty, who had XII.

THE FUEL BEAMS. Two witnesses only lived of Archy Beatty's crime, the sisters Turtle. They were so afraid they might speak of the matter to others that they never men-

As neither could write, they had no way that city was made by anybody. Few or Meantime, along the eastern base of the A loud, angry howl came from a rock none of the neighbors subscribed for a daily great South Mountain's trunk, the impro- before her, and she saw defined against the paper to hear the news, and at last Six James vised wagons with Sir James Athol's house- moon a wildcat, disturbed in his lair. The Athol and his Secretary and the name of hold and effects were moving in the crystal- feeling of the instant was to avoid him, but Archy Beatty almost faded from the feeble line night toward the nearest point of the the sentiment which followed was: "He memory of an uneventful community,